

Making a Difference: Ask A Buckeye Nurse



Purpose

To develop a model for community engagement that will inform student and faculty research/scholarship experiences in the study of health equity; to address the challenges to health and wellness in the Near East Side by reducing health inequities and health disparities; and to empower the community to engage in activities that promote mental health and wellness.

Impact

Since its inception, the program has served a total of 1,021 adults, of which 913 were African American adults. Participants received free health screenings (blood pressure, blood sugar, BMI, and stress) and 172 referrals were provided to health care providers. Screenings were conducted in partnership with Making a Difference, Inc. in a local barber shop on the Near East Side. Additional screenings were done in partnership with the Health Sciences Academy at Eastgate Elementary School and East High School.

Collaborations were expanded in April 2016 by teaming up with eight local barber and beauty shops on the Near East Side through a grant with Making a Difference, Inc. and the Ohio Commission on Minority Health through a project entitled, Barbers and Beauticians Who Care. Volunteers provided health screenings in the shops on a Friday



and Saturday and made referrals as needed. This initiative will be continued again in April 2017 through funding by the OSU College of Nursing Community Engagement Program. Faculty and students from the College of Nursing and nurses from OSU East serve as volunteers.

Three focus groups were conducted with African American Adults with a focus on a better understanding of their perception of stress within the community. Data is currently being analyzed and findings will be presented to stakeholders in the community.

Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

College of Nursing
Health Sciences Academy

Community Partners Involved

OSU East Hospital
Making a Difference, Inc.
Ohio Commission on Minority Health
Barber and Beauty Shops located in the Near East Side

How you can get involved:

- Funding support for continued expansion of health screenings
- Seeking additional OSU and community partners in the Near East Side

To get involved, contact:

Elizabeth Moran Fitzgerald
Associate Professor, Clinical
fitzgerald.118@osu.edu

Deborah Dawson
Instructor of Practice
dawson.190@osu.edu



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